

RIVER DELTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

March 8, 2022

1. **Call Open Session to Order** – Board President Stone called the Open Session of the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 5:33 p.m. on March 8, 2022 at the Walnut Grove Elementary School, Walnut Grove, California.
2. **Roll Call of Members:**
 - Jennifer Stone, President
 - Dan Mahoney, Vice President
 - Marilyn Riley, Clerk
 - Rafaela Casillas, Member
 - Marcial Lamera, Member
 - Wanda Apel, Member
 - Randall Jelly, MemberAlso present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent
3. **Review, Approve the Closed Session Agenda and Adjourn to Closed Session**
 - 3.1 Board President Stone announced items on the Closed Session Agenda
 - 3.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items. – None to report
4. **Board President Stone asked for a motion to approve the Closed Session agenda and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session @ 5:34 pm**

Member Mahoney moved to approve, Member Lamera seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)
5. **Open Session was reconvened at 6:41 pm**
 - 5.1 Roll was retaken, all members were present.
Also present: Katherine Wright, Superintendent; Tammy Busch, Chief Business Officer, Nicole Latimer, Chief Educational Service Officer and Jennifer Gaston, Recorder.
 - 5.2 Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Stone
6. **Report of Action taken, if any, during the Closed Session** (Government Code Section 54957.1)
Board President Stone reported that the Board approved Closed Session item 4.3.4.1 Resolution #829 Release and Reassignment of certificated employees for the 2022-2023 school year.

Member Mahoney moved to approve, Member Lamera seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)
7. **Review and Approve the Open Session Agenda**

Board President Stone asked for a motion to approve the Open Session Agenda.

Member Lamera moved to approve, Member Casillas seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)
8. **Public Comment:** Michael Garcia, Elementary School Counselor at D.H. White Elementary and Isleton Elementary, provided data to support the need of a full-time counselor at D.H. White Elementary School and a shared counselor for Isleton Elementary and Riverview Middle School.
Kendall Murphy, Walnut Grove Elementary School Teacher, requested that the Board help expedite the installation of three SmartBoards at her school site.
Mr. Dan Simpson, community member and former Board member, requested the support of the Board on a Lions Club fundraising event. The Lion's Club is partnering with the Rotary Club, the Art Studio, the Booster Club and CAPS, an organization that supports the Rio Vista Police Department, to hold summer concerts that are designed to be a family affair with children's games, face painting and other fun opportunities. Mr. Simpson is hoping to hold these summer concerts on District property, specifically the Rio Vista High School Football Stadium. The City of Rio Vista, Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce and local businesses are in support of the fundraising events. Mr. Simpson is requesting the Board to make an

exception on the Board policy that excludes the sale or distribution of alcohol when children are present. The local service clubs are trying to find a fundraiser other than the fireworks booth to raise money for their organizations, and, in turn, will ultimately benefit the local schools. The proceeds will be split 50/50 with the police department through CAPS and the local service club organizations.

9. Reports, Presentations, Information

9.1 Board Member(s) and Superintendent Report(s) and/or Presentation(s) –

9.1.1 Board Members' report(s) Member Lamera reported that Delta High School students will be interviewed on Good Day Sacramento the following morning to showcase the Delta Education Vineyard Project. The finished project will be displayed including the wine labels designed by the students. The live feed should air sometime between 8:00-9:00am.

9.1.2 Superintendent Wright's report(s) shared that March 8th is a very special day for her. It is the day she first became a mother and wished her son Nathan a happy birthday.

Superintendent Wright announced that the District's Admin Team welcomes two new members, Jane Cronin and Thomas Pender. She mentioned that Jane graciously returned to River Delta USD and agreed to serve the District's new Director of Special Education and Tom is serving as the Vice Principal of Delta High and Clarksburg Middle Schools. She stated that we are very fortunate and grateful to have these two working for us until the end of the school year.

Superintendent Wright reported that she along with Mr. Gaston and Ms. Becerra met with the Courtland Pear Fair Committee Chair to discuss the possibility of bringing back the Pear Fair to the town of Courtland for the 50th Anniversary of the Pear Fair. She felt that the collaboration made for a successful meeting.

Superintendent Wright mentioned that she was a guest reader for Read Across America Day at D.H. White Elementary School. She had the pleasure of reading to Mrs. Saldana's, Mr. Pedro's and Mrs. Lindsay's classes. She thanked Ms. Wasson for organizing of the event.

Superintendent Wright was part of a financial planning simulation in one of the Foundational Skills classes at Rio Vista High School. Mrs. Johnson, a teacher at Rio Vista High School, partnered with Travis Credit Union to teach smart decision making and financial planning to the students.

Superintendent Wright announced that she received official notice from the California Department of Public Health that the masking mandate will become strongly recommended on Monday, March 14th and the Decision Forest has been revised down to a Decision Tree to use as reference for those who have been exposed to the Covid-19 virus.

Superintendent Wright shared with the Board that, between the last Board meeting and the meeting this evening, the District-provided staff members with a delicious lunch at each school site and the District Office to show gratitude for all that they do for the District and students. She thanked Tammy Busch and Nicole Latimer for coming up with the idea and planning the lunches for each site.

9.2 Business Services' Reports and/or Presentations on: Routine Restricted Maintenance; Deferred Maintenance; Maintenance and Operations; Transportation Department; Food Services Department; District Technology; and District Budget – Tammy Busch, Chief Business Officer; Ken Gaston, Director of MOT

9.2.1 Monthly Financial Report – Tammy Busch, Chief Business Officer, announced that the financial report is included within the First Interim Report.

9.2.1.1 ADA/Enrollment Report – Tammy Busch, Chief Business Officer reported that the districtwide enrollment decreased by 113 student compared to the same month of the 2019-2020 school year. However, the districtwide attendance had an increase of 144 ADA compared to last month.

9.2.1.2 A Representative from Crowe LLP to present River Delta Unified School District's 2020-2021 Audit Reports – Ms. Busch introduced Charles Raibley, a

representative from Crowe LLP. Mr. Raibley provided an overview of the three components of the External Audit which included: a Financial Statements Audit, which is a financial picture of the District for FY2020-2021, Federal Compliance Audit and a State Compliance Audit for FY2020-2021. Mr. Raibley also provided the results of the audits including an opinion/ranking to each audit. The Financial Audit was given an unmodified opinion, which is the highest-ranking a district can receive, with no findings. The Federal Audit included Covid Relief funds, receiving an unmodified opinion. The State Compliance Audit received a minor finding which was the ratio of the District's expenditures related to teacher's salaries was deficient. The District's narrative explained the deficiency was due to the expenditure using Covid relief funds. There was no fiscal impact due to this finding. Superintendent Wright mentioned that at the time of the expenditures for FY2020-2021 negotiations was still in progress. Since that time, a Tentative Agreement has been reached and the expenditures for salaries for FY2020-2021 have been adjusted and paid out.

9.2.1.3 Measures J & K Bond Program Update and Presentation - Process Moving Forward, Timetable, Budget Overview, and Initial Project List for Consideration – Tammy Busch, Chief Business Officer, and Representative from RGM Kramer, Inc., Ralph Caputo, provide the Board with process moving forward and reviewed the timeline of the projects by phases, a budget overview including a breakdown of the estimated expenditures, as well as an initial projects list for consideration.

9.2.2 Maintenance, Operations & Transportation Update - Ken Gaston, Director of MOT, stated that his report is as submitted. However, one work order that is in question and mentioned earlier was submitted on January 21st, updates on this work order have been provided to the principal. During the seven weeks in question, the maintenance department had several employees out and is currently working with only has 80% of its staff. The work order will be address as soon as possible.

Good news - a bus driver candidate is almost completed with all requirements needed to become a driver for the District. Bad news - one driver will be out for an undetermined amount of time.

9.3 Education Services' and Special Education Reports and/or Presentation(s) - Nicole Latimer, Chief Educational Services Officer

9.3.1 Educational Services Update – Nicole Latimer, Chief Educational Services Officer, shared the events and projects of her department. She stated that, over the weekend, the District held a ELPAC training session coordinated by Ms. Norris and led by Mandi Friedel to train test examiners for the school sites in preparation of the upcoming testing window that will last until the end of the year.

The Educational Services Department has been preparing for a professional development day for teachers to be held on March 30th and will focused on collaborating on differentiation.

Ms. Latimer acknowledged Jennifer Ratola for her dedication in completing the Office of Civil Rights Certification.

Ms. Latimer announced that a secondary leadership curriculum meeting was held for the administration team which focused on curriculum and trainings needs, various programs, and student mental health. An elementary leadership curriculum meeting will follow.

Ms. Latimer stated that she has been working with Ms. Busch and Mr. Mimiaga to find creative ways to provide bus transportation to students. They have been working with Regional Migrant Education and have received their approval to use migrant funds to provide bussing for migrant students for the remainder of the year and through the Migrant Summer Program.

Ms. Latimer indicated that they are preparing for the Summer Programs and the staffing needs. She also indicated that Mr. Wright has been preparing the culture and climate surveys, which will be sent out through ParentSquare at the end of March. These surveys will eventually be sent out to students, staff and families.

9.3.2 Special Education Update – Nicole Latimer, Chief Educational Services Officer, reported that, the Special Education teachers are adding testing accommodations into the TOMS system prior to the testing season. This effort has been heavily supported by the Technology TOSA, Steve Wright, and Principal, Stacy Wallace.

Jane Cronin, Interim Director of Special Education, has been conferring with case managers and service providers to obtain information on where the District stands and what the needs are that still need to be addressed. As Jane Cronin, Dir. SpEd, was recently hired and is working part-time until the remainder of the year, the department has been supported by Debbie Morris, SCOE SELPA Director, Superintendent Wright, and Nicole Latimer, Chief Educational Services Officer. The Health support services portion of the position has been led by Superintendent Wright with the help of the School Nurse, Angela Patin. Becky Bryant and Meladee McCarty have been additional support for our preschool and non-public school students on an as need basis.

9.4 River Delta Unified Teachers Association (RDUTA) Update – Alyson Stiles, RDUTA President – no report given

9.5 California State Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter #319 Update – CSEA Representative, David Groves, reported that a survey had been sent out to the CSEA employees regarding how they stand on the mask mandates. 36 employees responded to the survey. Most of the employees would prefer not to wear masks. Mr. Groves mentioned that he and his team have a negotiation meeting scheduled with the District on March 23rd.

9.6 Hold a Public Hearing to “Sunshine” the River Delta Unified School District’s Negotiation Proposals to the River Delta Unified Teachers’ Association for 2021-2022 – Katherine Wright, Superintendent

Open Public Hearing 8:04 pm

Public Comments: Superintendent Wright announced the District’s negotiation proposals to be “Sunshined” to the River Delta Unified Teachers Association (RDUTA). Among the Article they plan to negotiate Salary, Benefits, and Class size for the 2021-2022 school year. A Public Comment was made by Marina Pearl, a concerned parent of two students that attend D.H White Elementary School. She stated that her son’s first year of school his teacher was out on maternity leave and a long-term sub was placed into the classroom. In his second year of school, he had a novice teacher which also took maternity leave. She doesn’t feel that the maternity leave is the issue, but the fact is that his first two years of school he had very new teachers and teacher retention is to blame. She has the opinion that the District has low salaries, which only attract new teachers that use River Delta Unified School District as a place to enter the profession and once they have experience and are tenured, they leave the district for positions with high paying wages. Mrs. Pearl mentioned that is a substitute teacher for the District and has conversations with many of the teachers daily and that teachers do not feel appreciated or heard. Mrs. Pearl noted that she has heard that seven teachers do not plan on returning to D.H. White Elementary because the pay is not worth their commute. She urges the Board to pay teachers a competitive salary with incentives to attract experienced, qualified teachers.

Close Public Hearing: 8:08 pm

9.7 Hold a Public Hearing to “Sunshine” the River Delta Unified Teachers’ Association Negotiation Proposals to the River Delta Unified School District for 2021-2022 – Peter Hamilton, RDUTA Lead Negotiator

Open Public Hearing 8:08 pm

Public Comments: Superintendent Wright stated this Public Hearing is to “Sunshine” the RDUTA Initial Proposals to the District. These articles listed were received from RDUTA in order to add to this agenda. Superintendent Wright noted that she has been directed not to speak on their behalf regarding their proposals.

Close Public Hearing: 8:09 pm

10. Consent Calendar

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are to be considered routine action and all will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board of Trustees requests that specific items to be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action. Any items removed will be considered for separate action after the motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

10.1 Approve Board Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board – February 15, 2022

Special Meeting of the Board – February 28, 2022

10.2 Receive and Approve Monthly Personnel Report - As of March 8, 2022

10.3 Request to Approve District's Monthly Expenditure Report February 2022

10.4 Request to Approve the Parent Teacher Club Fundraising Events for D.H White Elementary School – Nicolas Casey

10.5 Request to Approve the Agreement for Services with Signal Vine to Provide Communication and Engagement with Adult Students for Wind River High School (Adult Education) – Nicholas Casey, Principal

Member Stone requested to pull consent item 10.5 for discussion, Member Mahoney moved to approve the remaining items Member Riley seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)

After the discussion Member Lamera moved to approve Consent Calendar item 10.5, Member Casillas second. Motion passed 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent)

Member Stone acknowledged those who donated and thanked them for their continuing support.

Action Items - Individual speakers shall be allowed three minutes to address the Board on any agenda item. The Board shall limit the total time for public presentation and input on all items to a maximum of 20 minutes. With Board consent, the Board President may increase or decrease the time allowed for public comment, depending on the topic and the number of persons wishing to be heard and the overall length of the agenda. The Board President may take a poll of speakers for or against a particular issue and may ask that additional persons speak only if they have something new to add. (BB 9323) Anyone may appear at the Board meeting to testify in support of, or in opposition to, any item on this agenda being presented to the Board for consideration.

11. Request to Accept and Approve the Audit Report of Crowe LLP, Independent Auditor, for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 – Tammy Busch, Chief Business Officer

Member Mahoney moved to approve, Member Lamera seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)

12. Request to Approve the Second Interim Financial Report for 2021-2022 – Tammy Busch, Chief Business Officer

Member Lamera moved to approve, Member Casillas seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)

13. Request to Approve the First and Final Reading of Updated Board Policy 3555 – Nutrition Program Compliance, Due to New Legislation – Tammy Busch, Chief Business Officer

Member Jelly moved to approve, Member Apel seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)

14. Request to Approve the Second and Final Reading of the Updated or New Board Policies, Administrative Regulations and Exhibits Due to New Legislation, Mandated Language and/or Citation Revisions as of December 2021 - Katherine Wright, Superintendent

Member Apel moved to approve, Member Casillas seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)

15. Request to "Sunshine" River Delta Unified School District's Initial Negotiation Proposals to the River Delta Unified Teachers' Association for 2021-2022 – Katherine Wright, Superintendent

Member Riley moved to approve, Member Casillas seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)

16. Request to Acknowledge the "Sunshined" River Delta Unified Teachers' Association Negotiation Proposals to the River Delta Unified School District for 2021-2022 – Peter Hamilton, RDUTA Lead Negotiator

Member Lamera moved to approve, Member Apel seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)

17. Request to approve the Agreement with Fagen Friedman & Fulfroost LLP. to Provide Legal Services Regarding Student Discipline and Other Legal Services not limited to the 2021-2022 School Year – Katherine Wright, Superintendent

Member Jelly moved to approve, Member Lamera seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)

18. Re-Adjourn to continue Closed Session, if needed – Board President Stone reported that re-adjourning to Closed Session was not necessary.

19. Report of Action taken, if any, during continued Closed Session (Government Code Section 54957.1) Board President Stone reported Closed Session was not necessary – no actions to report.

20. Adjournment: There being no further business before the Board, Board President Stone asked for a motion to adjourn.

Member Casillas moved to approve, Member Riley seconded. Motion carried 7 (Ayes: Mahoney, Riley, Casillas, Lamera, Apel, Jelly, Stone): 0 (Nays): 0 (Absent:)


The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm

Submitted:


Katherine Wright, Superintendent and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

By: Jennifer Gaston, Recorder
End

Approved:


Marilyn Riley, Clerk, Board of Trustees